

The Serenader

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— FROM —
THE SERENADER'S
MAIL BAG

THE SERENADER

ISSUED EVERY MONTH IN THE INTERESTS
OF MANDOLIN, GUITAR and BANJO
TEACHERS and PLAYERS EVERYWHERE

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this is only by note." I am only pleased to say that our worthy editor asked me to write on this subject. I trust I will see you all this summer in a visit to the Olympic Games. Come in and see me.

Sincerely- C. S. De Lano

THE DIAGRAM METHOD FOR STEEL GUITARS

By- C.S.DeLano

It is a deplorable fact that a number of our teachers of the Hawaiian Guitar have yielded to the so called "diagram" system of playing this beautiful instrument. Nothing could be more remote from true musical instruction than this so called "quick" method. I have been carefully investigating it's workings and I find not one out of ten can even read the music arranged thus. Does anyone suppose for a moment that any teacher of piano or violin would for a moment stoop to such fake methods? If so they may expect to lose all pupils and prestige as a teacher. The customer goes to the music dealer to buy a diagram solo - he pays fifty cents for it and gets no discount, if a teacher. he takes the said solo home with high hopes that in an hour's practice he will easily learn the selection. To his dismay he finds no time no way to tell dotted notes from other notes and above all no general idea of how to play the NEW system. He is out his money and gets nothing out of it. I recently purchased one of these solos and not one of my pupils could read it. In my mail orders for publications I get numerous orders stating; (BY NOTE ONLY) "I am pleased to see our teachers are waking up to the fact that they have been deceived and will come back to the legitimate way of teaching and

Folks, the diagram system of teaching the Hawaiian Guitar seems to be somewhat of a question. "To be or not to be," or in plain English to do it or not! We know that some of the best teachers are using this method to some extent, as to whether they find that it is good business or not, we cannot say. We would venture that it would possibly hurt their standing with other teachers to the extent that the other teachers would do more or less knocking. Thus spoiling the good results in a business way. In writing to an organizer for one of the leading fretted instrument manufacturers in the south who was interested in securing teachers for his work, we received the following reply; - "I can't tell definitely from your circular whether you teach note or number system, If number system, I wouldn't be interested in any way whatever."

"I am getting a bunch of Clubs started in the south now, somewhat on the order of the Mandolin and Guitar Clubs of several years ago, yet with a bunch of entirely new ideas that teachers have never employed heretofore. This is calling for more teachers and the field is getting ripe for teachers who can

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Altoona, Pennsylvania

(continued from page 1)

teach large fretted instrument orch-
estras. I need several good ones now
BUT they must know music. Number
stuff won't go, with this kind of
work."

It would therefore seem to us
that if this man, who is interested
in the organization of fretted in-
strument orchestras on a commercial
basis, will have nothing to do with
teachers who teach by the diagram
method. It is not so good a proposi-
tion as one would think.

Let us hear from YOU on this
subject. -EDITOR

The world's Olympic games will
be held in Los Angeles, July 31 to
aug. 14th. surely our music teach-
ers and dealers will wish to attend.

C.S. DeLano, whose studio is 802
Majestic Theater Bldg. Los Angeles,
extends a personal greeting to all
to make his studio their music head-
quarters while visiting the games.

Mr. DeLano will give a musical
daily during the duration of the
games, at times not to conflict with
the game program. Hawaiian Guitar
music will be featured. Standard
Guitar and Ukulele solo work will

vary the program. Mr. DeLano will
present the following talent: Do-
rothy Bruns, the premier lady solo-
ist on the steel guitar, of the Pa-
cific coast, Celeste Adair, an ex-
pert Standard Guitar soloist, An-
cid Overton, Standard Guitar, who accom-
panied C.S. DeLano a year ago on his
concert trip to Chicago, the DeLano
Junior Hawaiian Guitar Quartet com-
posed of Virginia Bennet, Alfred De
gaetano, Oran Smiley and Bobbie
Squires, assisting - Mrs. Lucille
Alshire and Mrs. C. John, talented
soprano soloist, little Margaret Al-
shire, 8 year old Standard Guitar
soloist, will aid with several se-
lections. Mr. DeLano will play the
several instruments in the program.
All attending the games report to
Mr. DeLano on arriving in Los Angel-
es. Everything will be done by Mr.
DeLano and his assistants to make
your stay at the games a pleasnt one.